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CLAIMS

1. A pharmaceutical composition for treatment of chronic rheumatoid arthritis containing an interleukin-6 antagonist as an effective component.

5 2. A pharmaceutical composition for treatment of chronic rheumatoid arthritis according to claim 1, characterized in that said interleukin-6 antagonist suppresses abnormal growth of synovial cells occurring with chronic rheumatoid arthritis.

10 3. A pharmaceutical composition for treatment of chronic rheumatoid arthritis according to claim 1, characterized in that said interleukin-6 antagonist is an antibody against interleukin-6.

15 4. A pharmaceutical composition for treatment of chronic rheumatoid arthritis according to claim 2, characterized in that said interleukin-6 is human interleukin-6.

20 5. A pharmaceutical composition for treatment of chronic rheumatoid arthritis according to claim 1, characterized in that said interleukin-6 antagonist is an antibody against interleukin-6 receptor.

25 6. A pharmaceutical composition for treatment of chronic rheumatoid arthritis according to claim 2, characterized in that said interleukin-6 receptor is human interleukin-6 receptor.

7. A synovial cell growth inhibitor containing an interleukin-6 antagonist as an effective component.

30 8. A synovial cell growth inhibitor according to claim 7, characterized in that said interleukin-6 antagonist is interleukin-6 antibody or interleukin-6 receptor antibody.

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